

THE OREAD.

Vol. 1.

Mount Carroll Seminary, Carroll County, Illinois, June, 1869.

No. 6.

THE OREAD.

MOUNT CARROLL, ILLINOIS.
JUNE, 1869.

With the opening of the New Year, we issue the first number of the Oread. It will be a sheet of sixteen pages, published monthly, under the direction of the members of the Oread Society, and its columns will be open to contributions not only from the present class of students, but from such of the former pupils as may choose to communicate with us. While our prominent design is the intellectual improvement of the pupils, our aim shall also be to furnish profitable and entertaining reading matter for all.

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FINANCIAL MANAGER,

Mount Carroll Seminary,

MOUNT CARROLL, ILLINOIS.

For "The Oread."

Talk of Pleasant Things, To-night.

BY LIBBIE LUNT HALL.

Talk of pleasant things, to-night,
For my heart is full of gladness,
So let not one word of yours
Turn my joyfulness to sadness.
Let me take your hand in mine—
Listen! how the winds are wailing—
But I know the stars are out,
And the moon thro' heaven is sailing.

*And I know our room is cheery,
For the fire is burning bright.
So let's talk of pleasant things,
Talk of those we love, to-night.
Ah! dear friend, the word of sadness
Which I warned you not to speak,
I have spoken and bro't this whiteness,
O'er the crimson of your cheek,
For one friend you loved grew weary
On the hills of life, and died.
One, who up thro' years of beauty

Had come sweetly by your side,
But it may be, he was wisely
Called away from pain or ill.
Which we saw not, thus believing,
Let us trust God's kindness still.

And ere long, released from tumult,
Care, temptation, pressing sore,
With our loved we shall be gathered,
To that radiant, changeless shore,
Where they walk in white, and praising
Strike their thousand harps of gold.
Where His wondrous love and mercy
Are forever, ever told:
St. Louis, June, 1869.

From the Ballston Democrat.

WEARY.

Earth has brought me little gladness
Since my life was first begun;
Toil and sorrow, pain and sadness
Have been my heart-guests one by one;
Till grown weary of the contest,
I can scarcely battle more.
Heart and hope, and hands so weak,
I wildly pray, "would it were o'er."
But God knows best; be still my heart;
Hush this idle weeping—
Crowd back the blinding tears—
He hath thee still in keeping.
He will hold thy weary form
When earthly reeds shall break,
If thou wilt lay thy burdens down,
Believing Him for Christ's dear sake.
And thus, dear Lord, I come to Thee,
Weary, worn, and weak,
Earthly hopes all fall my heart,
Heavenly ones I now will seek.

For the Oread.

TREADVILLE, April 4th, 1868.

MY DEAR MISS PRICE: Yours of March 15th was duly received. It gives me pleasure to comply with your request by sending the accompanying sketch or "bird's eye view" of our life in the 'Parsonage,' together with my own conclusions as to the principal cause, or causes, of our discomfort. Happy in having an opportunity to express my views, and trusting this brief article will furnish the information you desire, I remain,
Yours, sincerely,

SUSAN A. WEBB.

THE PARSONAGE AT TREADWELL.

A Random Sketch by a Minister's Sister.

"An' sure, Miss, are ye niver goin' to be ather gittin' up? The master's aslape, an' the missis wid a hidache, an' the childer jist rarin' an' tarin' like young bastes that they are; an' me mate aturnin' as black as a nagur, bad cess to 'em, on the stove."

"Yes, Bridget, don't say 'bad cess,'" and I turned over wearily,

longing for a little more rest.—
Georgie, my little two years old bed-fellow, had been so restless through the night as to keep me awake the most of the time until nearly day-light, then he amused himself as soon as it was light with pinching my nose and pulling open my eye-lids, until I coaxed him to go into the nursery across the hall and go to bed with the boys. After his departure I fell into a blissful nap from which the voluble Bridget wakened me.

"Faith, Miss!" she said in reply to my last remark, "it's not to the mate I'd be ather sayin' 'bad cess' at all, at all. It's to the nagurs, the spalpeens, the—"

Before the sentence was completed she had left for the kitchen, so that the conclusion was lost to me, as well as the opportunity of correcting her views of the negro race, which with true, Irish instinct, she heartily dislikes.

It was cold in my room, and, out of doors, the March wind was howling dismally.

The day before had been unusually busy even for the Sabbath, as a number of friends from some distance in the country, remained to afternoon service on account of the bad roads, and spent the intervening time at the parsonage.—Dinner must be prepared for fifteen, whereas, in my necessary economy, I had planned for only our own family of seven. But "making bricks without stubble" can be done, I have found in my five year's experience as officiating minister's sister, so, with a brave face, I escorted the brethren and

sisters into the sitting room and sent Bridget to make a fire in the parlor, while I went into the kitchen, where I stood in the centre of the room for fully five minutes, in a state of dazed perplexity.

There was one custard pie which would cut into six pieces very nicely. One pie always sufficed for our family as I did not care much for pastry. There were two pounds of steak which I had been so extravagant as to buy the day before in anticipation of a Sunday treat, and which would have done very well for ourselves but for fifteen! "an atom in the balance weighed against infinity!" There was enough bread and butter and, as Bridget said exultingly when she brought up the "atom" of steak in one hand and a large pan of potatoes in the other, "Faith! an' there be plinty uv the praties, Miss."

"Yes," I replied trying to hide my perplexity, "and you may bake them. Almost every one enjoys a nice, baked potato. Be very careful not to let the meat burn, Bridget. I will come out in a little while to cut the pie. You may set the table in the sitting room."

The parlor was quite comfortable by the time I had given Bridget her instructions, and I ushered our friends in with as much graciousness as could be assumed, and then went up stairs to Ada's room to see if she were not able to come down and help entertain them, as Bro. Will always likes to spend as much time, between the two services, as he can in his study. Ada was on the bed in her loose wrapper, hair down and head bound up with brown paper and vinegar. My injudicious question as to her ability to smooth out her hair and go into the parlor for a few minutes, until I could arrange

for our scant dinner, sent her into a fit of hysterics. As soon as I could, I brought her out of the fit, re-wet the paper with vinegar, and admitted into the close room, a little pure air. Then I excused the lady of the house to her guests in the parlor and called Bro. Will out for consultation. Will kept house the first five years after he was married and then was quite successful, but since I have superintended affairs he has forgotten nearly all the knowledge he had acquired: yet, I thought, "in a multitude of counsel there is safety," so after vainly trying to indicate in some way that I wished to speak with him, I was obliged to say plainly that I wanted to see him a moment. Will is such an abstracted, brown-study sort of a man. I believe if a man should threaten to shoot him and even present the pistol, Will would look at him a few minutes, then say "Pardon me. I did not understand you. Yes; a very fine weapon. Where did you say you purchased it?" Just in this way he looked at me as I led him to the kitchen table, and pointed to the small piece of steak and one pie.

"Yes, I see it Sue," he said glancing complacently at the articles mentioned. "They look very nice. Did you make the pie, did you say?"

"I haven't said any thing" (I did feel vexed,) "and I don't think there is much to be said. That steak is designed to be divided into fifteen pieces, leaving none for manners; and that pie also into fifteen parts. Now the question is, can you do it?"

"Of course it can be done, Sue," was the cheerful answer. Theoretically they can be divided in-

definitely, and, practically, they will admit of many more than fifteen divisions." With this remark he walked off, insanely but placidly, meditating, no doubt, upon the miraculous multiplication of the leaves and fishes.

Thus left to myself, I sat down on a corner of the wood-box and concentrated my thoughts upon the "situation." I sat there motionless until Bridget had turned the steak on the gridiron, when, suddenly a happy thought struck me so forcibly, that I jumped off from the wood-box, stepping on the cat's tail in my descent, and went dancing about the kitchen in a way that Bridget was well used to, but which would have shocked, had they seen it, the good deacons and deaconesses in the parlor. But they did not see it. Then I am a little body and do not look as old as twenty-three, and this thought of mine was such a deliverance out of trouble. It was that the table should be arranged only for our night guests and Will and myself. I would say that the children would take a luncheon and have dinner after the second service, according to our usual plan; and would occupy myself with waiting on the table and not be helped to anything, and hoped that Will would see how little there was and eat accordingly. The last point was the only one which gave me anxiety. Will is very fond of steak and, poor fellow! does not have it often, and he would forget how little there was and as likely as not, eat a quarter of it himself. And if I should caution him beforehand, it would be just like him to ask before the company, "What did you say about the meat, Sue?"

But the pie could not possibly

make more than eight pieces, and they shamefully small. If, following our custom, Will should serve it, he would cut it into only six pieces, then look up at me innocently and say, "We shall need another pie, Sue." I decided to do it myself and (instruct Will previously) to decline when I should offer him some. It was practising a little bit of deception, perhaps, but do not blame the minister for he, much to my chagrin, did not become a party to it.

I called him aside a moment before dinner and told him that I would serve the pie and that he must decline taking any.

At last all were seated, and Deacon Leach had asked a blessing which struck me as being somewhat long and impressive to be said before such a limited repast, but the good man did not know how much, or rather, how little, there was, and could not, therefore have intended any irony in alluding to the "bountifully spread board" at which they were "permitted to gather."

My heart was in my throat while Will was carving. He generally gives such uselessly large pieces! but he had not yet become fully engaged in conversation, and managed so admirably that all were helped, and still some remained. For the first time since we sat down I drew a natural breath, and could prepare the remaining cups without spilling either cream, milk I mean, or sugar.

As the time for desert drew near I felt that the critical moment was approaching, and that nothing but tact would carry me through safely. Being a woman I must, perforce, possess in some measure this valuable faculty or quality or whatever it may be, but I was too

well aware of the *little* I had and the *much* I needed.

Bridget removed the plates and brought in the poor, little forlorn hope-of-a-pie with as much of what the French call "sang froid" as though a half dozen others were in the pantry, ready to follow if called for.

I cannot recall the time when I did not understand *short* division, but have a distinct and painful remembrance of my trials with that long rule and those long examples in Long Division; yet, *never*, taking into the account all the ferulings, black marks, stayings-after-school, headaches and tears, which that principle in Arithmetic caused me, did I feel any worse than I sat with that pie before me for the "dividend," eight for the "divisor" and narrow little pieces for the "quotient;" and those eight people politely watching the operation. I felt as if I'd like to rub it all out as I used to my examples on the board, and rub myself out too for a little while.

Why is it, unless it is from that perversity of human nature which is the result of its "total depravity," that when you are doing anything which is perplexing and embarrassing, and it seems as if you would fly away if any one watches you, that just at that time all tongues should be spell-bound and all eyes turned upon you? I thought of asking some question which would divert their attention from the pie and set them to talking. Just one word on the subject to Mrs. Merritt, and we should have had a minute description of the premonitory symptoms, the course of the disease and the convalescence of all six of her children in the scarlet fever, from which the last one had just recovered. And so with any one of them,

bless their dear, honest hearts! I love them if they were too many for my pie. But I could not trust myself to speak for fear I should make a mistake in the example I was working, and it was one which could not be erased and worked over very well.

I succeeded in making an exact division to all "naked-eye-appearance" and felt sure, even if the pieces were small, that they were just alike, and that Deacon Leach could not quarrel with his wife for having a larger piece than himself, nor could any of them feel any jealously; unless, indeed, poor Will might, who sat, after the rest were served, waiting so patiently, and so ostensibly too, for pie, that I was obliged to say, though with a faint voice and a slight shake of my head at him, "Will you have some pie, brother?"

"Yes, thank you" he said innocently.

I think I must then have been in what is called a "tight place" for I thought, for a moment, that I should suffocate. Something must be done, and thank her from the bottom of my heart! good Mrs. Green did it. She passed her cup to have it refilled. This gave me time to think. Brother is a Radical and Deacon Leach a conservative. The impeachment question was hardly appropriate for the Sabbath, but I was desperate, as I made a startlingly democratic remark to the Deacon.—Brother Will looked up in amazement, but the good Deacon responded and in a minute, himself and Will were so absorbed in discussion that, I presume, neither of them knew, nor thought, nor cared whether they had any pie or not. It was a dangerous piece of strategy, and I would, by no means, recommend it, in all cases,

to cover a deficit in dessert.

During all this time where were the children? Georgie was asleep, but Newton and Baxter, I had not seen since church, or rather since I had given them some bread and butter and sent them to the nursery. Thither I went for them but they were not there. Could it be that their mother had exerted herself sufficiently to call them into her room, that she might amuse them? I tapped at the door and Newton opened it for me.

Ada was still lying on the bed, in the same undone condition, and wiping the tears from her eyes with Will's last clean handkerchief. Baxter and Newton looked as though they had transferred the butter to themselves externally, as they had the bread internally, and both seemed trying to cry. I was alarmed, and said, "What is the matter, Ada? Do you feel worse?"

As well as she could, between her hysterical sobs, she replied; "It's enough to be neglected myself, but to have my poor children put off in this way is more than I can endure. I can lie up here alone hour after hour without my dinner, but I can't see my poor little boys go hungry without feeling bad,—and you all down stairs, laughing and talking and eating your dinner."

Will's only clean handkerchief was fast becoming rumpled beyond recovery, so, before replying, I suggested as politely as I could that I should get another handkerchief for her, as Will would need that for church that afternoon. That was the "last straw on the camel's back."

"Yes," she moaned "I make trouble in some way all the time. Well, I only hope that it won't be

long that I'll have to trouble you. I might go to the poor-house now I'd be out of the way then.

"No, you sha'n't, mother," said Newton, looking defiantly at me. "Papa said you shouldn't. 'Taint no matter what Aunt Sue says."

"Aunt Sue" took her departure and sent Bridget up to bring the boys down for thier dinner, while she prepared some toast and tea for their mother.

So she had been talking that nonsense to Will!. No wonder the poor man looked sad and abstracted, and forgot to refuse the pie!

I rubbed the butter off from the boys faces and jackets, put on their caps and set them down, promising them maple sugar if they would not stir; then I tried to put myself in church-going order, in which I was far from being both as to state of dress and frame of mind. After this was done I could go into the parlor and act the hostess until church time.

I hope all of Will's congregation were not as tired as myself, for had they been the sermon would have fallen unheeded on their ears.

When we reached home we found on our kitchen table, a nice ham, which Bridget said Mrs. Merritt brought in. "I'm sorry," I said, unconsciously speaking my thought.—"Faith! an' for what should ye be sorry, Miss?" asked Bridget in astonishment.

I did not tell her because she would not have understood me, not knowing all my previous thoughts. But I was sorry, because I had allowed myself to feel annoyed at being obliged to entertain those who were so kind and thoughtful for our comfort.

This day and the subsequent restless night were the cause of my so "conferring with flesh and blood" the next morning. Thus I reasoned with my "better-half"—the better half of my nature, I mean.

"Could I not, in the comfortable warmth of my couch, better form my plans for the day, than while shivering about in the cold? Did not the

great Paley lie in bed one whole day, to form his plans for life?"

"Yes," answered my "better-half," but you know your plans. They are what they have been for the last five years."

"And what they will be for twenty five years to come," I answered impatiently. "But Paley! I thought this a conclusive argument. "Surely he was a model!"

"Oh! Paley's lying in bed that day was only clinging a little longer to an indolent habit of life before giving it up entirely. Then Paley was a Collegian and had no housework to do, while you are a Minister's sister and have."

For confusion, discomfort and fatigue, our "Washing day" is second to nothing but our biennial May "morning." Will is not a Methodist clergyman but has all the advantages of change of scenes and labor, belonging to the regulations of that denomination.

It takes about two years for the "Church" to come to the conclusion that "Brother Webb is a good man, an excellent preacher and faithful pastor," but that "with so expensive a family on his hands and a sick wife" they "fear it will be impossible for them to pay him enough salary to keep him out of debt."

In the same length of time he will arrive to a somewhat similar conclusion. The "settlement is a good one. The people are kind and attentive, the church united and the field white unto the harvest;" but the salary does not meet expenses, debts are incurred and it will be better to go where, the receipts being large enough to cover the outgoes, he can give his whole heart and soul to pastoral labor, without being constantly harassed with calculations about making the 'two ends meet' "(which, I think will be when two parallel lines converge to one point unless Ada should improve in point of health or saving common sense").

I do not blame the church nor Will either. I can see that anxiety for his invalid wife, and for the little boys (so much in need of the wise and loving "watch-care" of a mother); and the fear of becoming involved in debt, must render it difficult for him to concentrate his thoughts upon his sermons, or to enter into sympathy with his people, knowing and sharing their joys and sorrows that he may counsel, comfort and console.

Some one has said that if we follow a person through one day, ob-

serving minutely his words and actions, we have his life in miniature. If such be the fact, I trust that this sketch of a portion of two days at the parsonage, will give an idea of our mode of life, and furnish the data from which you can deduce some conclusion which will be an aid in your investigation of the causes of discomfort in the life of a pastor and his family.

My sketchings are grouped together at random, in kaleidoscope fashion; but as I shake the toy and look in (and wish every unmarried clergyman might look at it too) I see the diverse fragments group themselves in one significant whole, reading thus: "If you would have a successful ministry, do not marry an invalid."

For The Oread.

THE GREAT UNKNOWN.

We are standing to-day on the shores of a vast unknown expanse in one of whose quiet, secluded harbors we have been peacefully anchored for a few brief years; and so intent have we been on the work of strengthening our bulwarks, and making every needed preparation to insure our frail barks against shipwreck in after years, that we have become almost oblivious of the great world of water beyond, until to-day we find ourselves waiting yet dreading to cut the cable that links us to so many fond memories; wishing yet fearing to launch out on Life's turbulent waste. Visions of bright hopes realized, come to us from distant ports, wreathed in smiles and whisper words of encouragement as we shudder at the thoughts of the Sylla and Charybdis that must be passed in our voyage. Never before, in our short lives, have our minds been so tossed with conflicting emotions. Hopes and fears, joy and pain, wishes and regrets alternately predominate; but among, above them all, rises the longing, the earnest wish to know something more of the yet unexplored realm of knowledge—the great unknown,

But where shall we commence? Infinities surround us on every hand.

Instinctively, we turn to the past, vainly hoping that Revelation may give us the clue for which we long and seek.

Turning to Genesis we read, "In the beginning"—and pause. Mysterious words! Who can fathom their meaning? Can finite mind conceive of a period in duration, when Deity, dwelling alone midst chaos and darkness, began the stupendous work of creation? Eager to form even a faint conception of the vast cycle of eternity, it stretches away past countless ages, and ere one ray of light has left the Eternal City to guide him who would penetrate this mystery, he is left groping in the darkness of infinity.

Then, weary from his vain attempt, he turns to earth only to find himself again baffled. Nature as if to reward him for his labor reveals to him the fact, in Geology, that twenty-seven times has God's creative power been displayed in peopling the globe with successive systems of life, all differing widely—twenty-seven times have all traces of life been swept from our planet earth. The facts are His, but beyond these all is wrapped in mystery. So turning again to Inspiration he reads "In six days God created the heavens and the earth and on the seventh rested from all his labors." But does the Creator number days by the rising and setting suns? Sufficient for thee, O man! to know that in the beginning was commenced a work whose culmination we see in existing nature.

Enough to know that then the divine command was given "Let there be light." "And there was

light;" out of that mass of molten matter it sprang all reddening and bright, welcomed by the songs of angels.

At His bidding the waters left their dark repose and the blue canopy of heaven spread high over all.

He spoke and the waters divided while earth upreared her head.

The hills and plains at His command were dressed in freshest verdure; dark forests and budding trees covered the valleys, while laughing streams went dancing through meadow and grove, gaily flinging back the kisses of the new made sun; and merry songsters called their songs of gratitude from their leafy homes till forest and grove were vocal with their sweet songs.

But the crowning work of His hand was yet to appear. We read "And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul." The breath of life! Who will interpret the words? Was it a spark of Deity—the soul—the immortal part of man transferred to that mortal, animal frame which we read was formed of the dust of the ground? Again have we reached infinity.

Around us, are fields white for the harvest, beneath us mines unexplored, while around, beneath, and above us, are realms of which the loftiest imagination in its wildest flight has never conceived.

When we go forth at night and view heaven's vast concave all throbbing and panting with stars, what feelings of wonder and awe take possession of our souls, while reason and imagination open to our view the stupendous mechanism of the heavens. Its planets become to us worlds; its stars re-

cede and each becomes a sun with myriads of worlds for attendants. How insignificant becomes our little planet when we realize that were it to be destroyed it would be missed no more, from the universe, than the leaf of the forest when it disappears. Its conflagration would be like the momentary flashing of a meteor when it darts athwart the heavens.

Years of incessant toil and labor have revealed to us only a small amount of knowledge concerning our own world; and to explore the mysteries of all those unknown ones would require an eternity.

Glorious pictures can Fancy paint of those worlds in ether blue where we love to think that Sin and Death have never entered.

Here imagination only can guide us and so we return to earth with its stern realities.

We wonder, no longer, that Newton should feel when his life's work was done, that he had only been gathering pebbles on the great shore of truth and knowledge.

But shall we falter, let our God given power slumber, our energies lie dormant, because there are limits beyond which human inquiry may not go, depths of wisdom which are not for us to fathom? The voices of those great spirits who have in all ages, lead the van in the march of human progress answer, emphatically, No! For, while there is much to impede our course, we know that we are steadily, surely, advancing. "Twas never meant for man to reach the heavens by strides of human wisdom." Rather let us go forth, fearlessly, in the strength of youth—with truth our armor, and knowledge our sword, to conquer the foes that would hedge up our way.

Our hearts are light and glad—some as we now enter upon another path in our journey of life; one which stretches far away even to the "Evergreen Mountains of Life." With willing feet we obey the many summons that come to us from the untried world—summons to come and labor and to win for ourselves a place among "The few, the immortal names that were not born to die."

As the hour draws near when we are to clasp the friendly hand for the last time, and utter that unwelcome word, farewell, fond memories of happy days come thronging round. To you, dear associates, who have contributed so much to our past enjoyment, we desire to address a few words. This year so quickly flown is now at its close; and, ere another sun shall have risen and set, we shall be far separated. But because distance divides us, need the silver cord of friendship be broken? May not the ties which have been so closely knit, still remain unsevered? Your memories shall ever be cherished by us, as sacred upon Memory's altar.

Kind, faithful teachers. Nobly have you labored, sacrificing your own happiness, oft times, for that of your pupils. To your cultivated minds and earnest endeavors we are indebted for the truths which we have gained. We owe much; more than we can ever repay or express, but with truly grateful hearts will we ever remember you.

As each coming year shall bring to you its added duties, will you not sometimes pause to think of us who will then be enlisted in the great army, whose ranks number all mankind?

May you, when "the silver cord is loosed and the golden bowl is

broken," be numbered among the great white throng. If there is one feeling of fear lest we shall falter in the battle of life, a glance into the kind, genial, faces of those gathered here, is enough to assure us that all is not dark and dreary in life's pathway.

We thank you, friends, for the interest in us which you have manifested by lending your presence to this occasion. May the happy reunion of to-day be followed by many others happier if aught than this; and may we teachers, friends, and scholars meet on the mystic shore in a grand reunion around the throne of the great All-Father.

A dark river rolls between us and that unknown land.

As it flows onward never-ceasing, deep, and dark, we almost shudder at the thought of battling with its waters, but lo! "Heaven opens wide her ever during gates, harmonious sound, on golden hinges turning" and we catch one glimpse of beauty such as man never dared to dream. The golden streets are flooded with rays of amber light which grows brighter around the great white throne, where angels robed in purest white, chant praises to the Lamb of God. Pure crystal rills go purling thro' those streets unmarred by storm or tempest.

One there is, calm and peaceful flowing out from the throne of God. Only a glimpse and the gates are shut, but a nameless longing fills our breast, to join in that song with cherubim and seraphim of "Worthy, Worthy is the Lamb of God."

CLARA McDEARMON,
Lyndon, Illinois.

Outside shows may be purchased, but real happiness is of home manufacture,

For The Oread.

MYSTERY.

In the breast of every one there is implanted a love for the mysterious. In the early ages this vein of superstition was exceedingly prominent. Then every thing was new and, consequently, unexplained. Little or no progress had been made in the sciences, and innumerable phenomena now clearly understood were then wrapped in a mantle of mystery. Our forefathers had not the writings and experiences of others to assist them in the prosecution of their researches, but were obliged to depend altogether upon themselves; consequently many false principles were deduced which tended only to increase their superstition. Some few who had penetrated farther into the mysteries of Nature, employed their knowledge to augment, instead of to allay, the superstitious terrors of an ignorant people; and throughout the known world, they wandered, practicing their "Black Art;" feared by all, and loved by none. With minds unused to such experiences, what must have been the feelings of those who beheld the miracles which even cause the heart to quake with fear, as we contemplate them in connection with their great Author.

As civilization advances and greater progress is made in the sciences, much that has been regarded as mysterious is explained, but how much of mystery yet remains. Who shall tell us when was the beginning?

We see the huge oak tree that for centuries has withstood the rage of many a fierce tempest, and in its gnarled arms and massive trunk can trace no resemblance to the tiny acorn from which it sprang. But even the acorn was not the beginning thereof, it fell from a mother oak which had, itself, sprung from an acorn. Thus, backward we may trace the line, but can we ever arrive at the ultimate germ, from which the wide spreading forests have arisen? Natural Philosophy tell us that the minute atoms of matter are continually changing

their places. Can you conceive how the particles which compose the massive granite blocks, the towering mountains, aye, the great globe itself, are continually shifting their places—continually whirling, whirling at a rate of which the mere thought makes the brain grow dizzy. Chemistry tells us that, by the never-ending change of form in matter, the food which we eat, the water which we drink, have been eaten and drunk thousands of times before. The chemist has penetrated far into the mysteries of nature but what he has brought to light is but a little of that which remains shrouded in darkness.

Turn we our eyes to the mighty sun around whose brilliant path are clustered myriads of stars. How vast is the difference of their apparent magnitude! Yet we are told that these same stars which to us seem but mere specks in the blue vault of heaven, are like the sun centers of mighty systems that extend on and on until they reach, as one has said, the Great White Throne. Where was the beginning? But something must have existed before these systems of worlds. Yes, the Great God, who created all. But, is the question a wrong one, was there nothing beyond? Is it possible to conceive of a Being who never began to exist? Oh! the brain grows dull and the mind turbid with such overwhelming thoughts, and though we may strive to suppress them, we strive in vain; for they still rise up in one despairing cry, "Why can't we know!" Yet we are told that there was no beginning, that God is the God and the Almighty Father of all; and, though it be sorely against the will, we must accept the mystery, and wait for its solution, in the clear light of Eternity.

For The Oread.

Gather Roses While they Bloom.

With the warm, genial breath of summer, come the beautiful flowers. The air is heavy with their sweet perfume. As the zephyrs rustle their slender stems, they bow so bewitch-

ingly, that we cannot but construe their little nods into an invitation to gather them. The next breeze may scatter the frail petals; then gather them while they bloom, inhale their dewy freshness, and love them for their own sweet sakes.

Gather them early, and gather them late, for they are beautiful in youth and beautiful in age. They, send wreaths of smiles to the infants lips, and, brighten the light of the old man's eyes. Life is a long and weary journey, but if we gather roses while they bloom, their remembrance will come to us in after years though less sweet than in their former freshness and with faded color. Gather them, for your summer may be short and the chilling blasts of autumn must come to every one when the roses are gone. Gather them because God has given them to you to make life more beautiful, given them with all their beauty of form and color to brighten our way. Do not scorn the humble gift, but thank the Giver, for these sweet messengers of a land where the roses always bloom, where no chilling winds scatter their delicate petals, and the autumn of blight and decay never comes.

A Sensible Thing About a College
From "The Chicagoan."

It is generally known, we suppose, that to perform much brain work, without manual labor, sets the nerves awry. Exclusive application to manual toil, on the other hand, is unfavorable to refinement and the proper harmony and balance of muscular and nervous centers. We observe that the principals of a seminary at Mount Carroll, Ill., understand these facts and have contrived a method of turning them to the advantage of students in moderate circumstances.—An opportunity is offered for students to pay a portion of their expenses by labor. The time for work is arranged so that it will not interfere with the hours devoted to study or recitation. Only industrious and faithful young men and women can enjoy the advantages offered.

It would be a good thing if students everywhere were trained to do about four hours' light work daily in the open air.

Students' Report for Month Ending May 18, 1869.

Latin—A, Misses Branch and Briggs; B, Misses Campbell and Eacker; C, Mary Mooney.

Music—Miss Mason's Class, Miss Vail; Miss Case's Class, Misses Pollock and Harvey; Miss McDaniel's Class, Miss Hathaway and Colver.

Vocalization—Miss Harvey.

Painting—A, Miss Charles; B, Miss Pollock. *Pencilling*—Miss Olmstead.

Gymnastics—Miss Mason and Mary Lichty.

Composition—Miss Lambertson.

Declamation—Clara White.

Logic—Miss Hathaway.

Criticism—Miss M. Hathaway.

Rhetoric—Miss Harvey.

Geometry—A, Misses Lambertson and Campbell; B, Miss Pollock.

Geology—Misses Lambertson and Tomlinson.

Botany—Misses Holcomb and Ella Smith.

Astronomy—Misses Eacker and Campbell.

Algebra—Stoddard's, Rosse Hostetter;

"Davies', Miss Phillips.

Book-keeping—Miss Harvey.

Evidences of Christianity—Miss Charles.

Practical Arithmetic—A, Misses Steffins, Johnson and Phillips; B, M. Grattan; C, Misses Bryant and Comings.

Intellectual Arithmetic—A, Misses Mason, Olmstead, Steffins and Phillips; B, Herbert Halderman and Misses Bryant, Grattan and Katie Gunn; C, Mary Lichty.

Grammar—A, Miss Olmstead; B, Misses Phillips and Steffins; C, Mary Bliss.

Analysis—Misses Olmstead and Steffins.

Geography—Clara White.

Primary Geography—Katie Gunn.

Primer of Geography—Jessie Miles.

Map Drawing—John M. Rinewalt.

History—Miss Phillips.

Reading—A, Miss Mason; B, Lilla Riley; C, Katie Gunn; D, Susie Soule.

Spelling—Misses Olmstead and Phillips.

Pennmanship—Misses Phillips and Olmstead.

Names of Boarding Pupils who adhered to the general regulations of the family—Misses Bosworth, Bowers, Branch, Briggs, Bryant, Bucklin, Charles, Campbell, Holcomb, Harvey, M. Hathaway, Lambertson, Mason, Olmstead, Pollock, Phillips, Steffins, Vail.

Unexceptionable Deportment—Miss Pollock.

OUR MUSIC STANDS.

"Still they come"—the fresh sheets of music—until our patient Music Stands groan beneath their burden and beg for relief.—First to our hand comes one of "The Last sensations."

The Chignon Mazurka, by Prevot. Price 40 cts.

"He's a Beau of Mine," a comic song for ladies. Words by Geo. Cooper. Arr. by Harry Miller. Price 30 cts.

SPARKLING JEWELS. The Morning Star Polka. No. 3 of the series.—By A. P. Wyman. Lively and easy. Price 30 cts.

"I'm Still a Friend to You. One of Will E. Hay's popular songs. Price 40 cts.

Morning Glory Schottisch; one of the Morning Glory Series by Julius Becht.—Price 35 cts.

Love's Response; an answer to *Love's Chiding*. A Song for Mezzo Soprano, by Prof. Annes. Price 30 cts.

Crossing the Ferry; by the author of *Skitting in the Park*. price 30 cts.

Flower Girl; Waltz Song from Godfrey's Flower Girl Waltz—adapted and arranged by W Dressler. Words by M. Barnett.—One of the Concert Songs as sung by Parepa, Patti and Clara Louise Kellogg. Price 50 cts.

FLOWER GIRL WALTZES; No. 1. *White Rose*, No. 2. *Purple Larkspur*, No. 3. *White Lupin*, No. 4. *Blue Violet*. Composed by Godfrey, Simplified by Dressler. Beautiful title page. Price 50 cts.

The Love Letter; Ballad for Mezzo Soprano; written and composed by M. Keller.—Price 30 cts.

Pretty Little Sarah. (Only ten a week.) Comic song for gentlemen. Arr. by Harry Miller. Price 35 cts.

Eloge des Larmes, Plaintes de la Jeune Filles, Adieu Three of Schubert's charming melodies, transcribed by Hellen. Price of first two each 40 cts. of last 30 cts.

Cradle song; a Song without Words by Schneider. A sweet and simple instrumental melody. Price 40 cts.

Often in the Olden Day. A Rondo Song for Mezzo Soprano from Offenbach's Comic Opera, *La Vie Parisienne*. English Words by M. Barnett. Price 50 cts.

He Wipes the Tear From Every Eye. A Sacred Song for Medium voice. Price 50 cts.

There's a Star that Shines for Thee. One of Thomas' beautiful compositions. Words by Charles H. Phillips.

Gaetana Mazurka; for the Piano by Ketterer. Moderately difficult and quite brilliant. Price 50 cts.

Potpourri; Instrumental. From Offenbach's Comic Opera, *La Vie Parisienne*. Price 80 cts.

A King on Walking Forth. From Offenbach's Opera bouffe, *La Perichole*. English words by M. Barnett. Price 50 cts.

The Dinner Bell Is Ringing, or the Beautiful Bells. Written and arranged by Henry Tucker. Price 50 cts.

That Other Girl Just like Mine. Comic Song, words by George Cooper. Music by Harry Miller. Price 30 cts.

Any of these pieces can be obtained by sending price affixed to the Publisher, J. L. Peters, New York.

"Go Ask My Wife. Song and Chorus. Words and music by Frank Howard. A song for "Women's Rights" men and women. Price 30 cts.

Not for Thy Beauty. Words by A. G. Chase. Music by C. F. Shattack. price 35 cts.

Kitty McKay; a ballad. Words and Music by Frank Howard. Price 30 cts.

"Tripping through the Barley. Another of Gorham's Home Melodies. Price 30 cts.

Love among the Roses. Words by Delehan-ty. Music by Bishop. Price 35 cts.

Autrefots. A fine composition from Liszt. Price 35 cts.

The Queen of Hearts; a ballad. Words by Miss Lizzie Garrison. Music by Alfred Van Rochon. Price 30 cts.

There's a Void in our Household. A beautiful song dedicated to "The Motherless." By Frank Howard. Price 35 cts.

The Stugin' Sketch. A comic song and chorus by P. Benson, Sr. ("Whitch stands for Singer.") price 35 cts.

"I'm Married!" Words from the Scotch. Music by F. W. Root. Price 30 cts.

There's no such Beau as Mine; song and chorus by Frank Howard. Price 30 cts.

When You Told Me the Tale of Your Love. Words and Music by M. L. Hackel-ton. Price 30 cts.

The Million Dollar Waltz; by Goldbeck. A pretty but not difficult Waltz. Price 70 cts.

The Eloquence, by Sydney Smith. This name stamps superior merit on the composition. It is, without exaggeration, exquisite, full of sweet strains and tinkling, silvery melodies. Price 75 cts.

There's Always a Something to Cheer Us; one of Gorham's Home Melodies.

Dawning of the Better Day. Words by Bates. Music by Webster. Price 35 cts.

Subilla Valse; by James Harrison. Brilliant, time well-marked. Price 40 cts.

Send price to Root & Cady, Chicago, for any of these pieces or for other new music.

OUR READING ROOM.

The May visitors to our Reading Room are no less charming and entertaining than those whom we have welcomed in the past month.

Our first chat shall be with HARPER'S BAZAR, for spring is already far advanced and we must attend to our wardrobes or run the risk of being found in Flora McFlimsey's sad condition. About these wardrobes none can advise more judiciously than the Bazar. The fashion plates are complete, all tastes and ages being consulted, and with every number come patterns for cutting different kinds of garments. There are patterns and instructions for fancy-work for the industrious, and superior reading matter for the literary, consisting of a mingling of fact, fancy, fun, pathos and wisdom. Every lady should have the Bazar. Harper and Brothers, New York. \$4.00 per year.

The New England Farmer for May opens with the question, "What Does May Mean?" which it answers in an interesting article, and then proceeds to a practical discussion of the great variety of topics which interest agriculturists,—as "Making a Poof Farm Rich," "Washing and Beating Butter," "Sugar Making," &c. There are also many valuable hints upon domestic economy. R. P. Eaton & Co., No. 34 Merchants' Row, Boston, Mass. \$1.50 per Annum.

The Toledo Blade.—A spicy, thoroughly up to the times Weekly, full of interesting stories, sketches and anecdotes and items of religious, political and commercial news. It has a department for Our Young Folks for Sunday Reading, for Humor and Miscellany and it has also Petrolum V. Nasby in its editorial corps. Miller, Locke & Co., Toledo, O. \$2.00 per Year.

THE OREAD.

MOUNT CARROLL,.....ILLINOIS.
JUNE, 1889.

Editorial Committee for June.

—O—
NONA BRANCH.
NELLIE CHARLES.
ALLIE J. CORNELIUS.
FRANKIE BUCKLIN.
—O—Address all Communications to Financial
Manager of The Oread.

EDITORIAL.

"We take no note of time but by its flight," and by our seasons of meeting and parting.

Another disuniting hour has come and gone,—another pleasant, very happy year has passed. The chain so lately united, is broken; the links scattered far and wide. After the few hurried weeks of rest and recreation, when Father Time, with due solemnity, and with dim forebodings of weal or woe, will roll along the hour of meeting; and when the merry peal which calls us back to old scenes shall ring on the ear, some links will be missing, for they are gone—not to return.

As is customary with most schools, we may suspend the publication of our paper during the vacation; but as yet *The Oread* has no time for rest. It has blithesome, welcome messages to carry to waiting ones;—messages too important to be cast aside;—and to our "loved one" we say,
"Go, bird of the silver wing, joyfully now,
Stoop not thy bright pinion on yon mountain's brow,

But hie thee away o'er rock, river and glen,
To deliver thy message, ere night close again,
Up! onward! let nothing thy mission delay,
Ever onward, upward, speed away!"

When the sun shines brightly and all Nature smiles, do we look for storms or dark days?

The sun of prosperity now shines bright and clear upon us. Still we have heavy, incessant showers,—showers of greetings, words of cheer, expressions of kind feeling, and deep interest.

To these items which presage success,—that success which knows no waning,—is added the delightful utility of a well-filled Reading Room, of which we are justly proud.

We welcome our exchanges from Vassar College, and old Harvard's iron doors; from all parts of the East, to the extreme border; nearer home, from Chicago University, from our own State, and all portions of the wide-spreading West; and onward till we reach California's golden shores. In all, far surpassing the number of many leading Colleges.

At first, some prophesied for us a short life. Do these facts look like death? It cannot be the last, final luster of a con-

sumptive, for not a shadow has fallen on us, not one slight enough to call a "cough."

Again we present to our friends, kind greetings, for the perfume of our abundant "showers" pervades the whole atmosphere.

TARDINESS.

The tardy appearance of the June number of *Oread* is because of deferring its issue till after the Examination and Commencement Exercises. As these did not occur till near the middle of the month and then must wait the necessary time for preparation of Report by the Examining Committee, &c., &c., the result has seemed unavoidable—a late appearance of the June *Oread*.—We trust our readers will excuse it however, especially as we continue to give four pages more matter every month, than our Prospectus calls for.

GRADUATES IN MUSIC.

The Music Department of our Seminary graduated two of its members in Music at this last commencement. We believe no better facilities can be found for prosecuting musical studies than in this Institution. The teachers employed are graduates of, and most have been assistant teachers in the best Musical Academies of New England.—The course of study, and system pursued here is the same as that of the Musical Academies and the same thoroughness is required. Instead of semi-weekly lessons, short ones are given daily. This brings the practice of the pupil more directly under the supervision of the teacher, and, aside from that, the stimulation of preparing a daily lesson is much greater than where there is a longer interval. The theory of Music is taught very thoroughly, daily recitations being required, as well as a review of the principles already acquired at the weekly rehearsals of the music classes. In short, "taking Music" means something here, more than simply acquiring a few instrumental pieces and may be a few popular songs. The study of Music in the Mount Carroll Seminary means work—a thorough mastery of it as a science and an art. The best of facilities are afforded for the accomplishment of these ends, and at the lowest possible cost—far less than is required for the same grade of instruction and instruments in a Conservatory of Music. Special and advantageous terms are given to students wishing music only, particulars of which can be had by addressing the Principals. Let all young ladies wishing to make music a specialty, either as an accomplishment, or with a view to teaching it, try this Institution before expending large sums of money to attend a Musical Seminary or Conservatory.

VACATION.

The time of rest is here. Teachers, students and all are off for rest and recreation. We did intend to be the exception and "stay home," like dutiful subjects, and "run *The Oread*." But the spirit of rest, (or *unrest*), has taken possession of us also, and we are now half inclined to say we too will take a vacation. If such be the conclusion, our readers need not look for a visit from *The Oread* next month. We feel more free to make an arrangement of the kind since it is not the custom for school periodicals to continue their publication during vacations. We had intended to be the exception, but if we do not prove so, shall trust to the leniency of our readers to excuse us on the plea that we simply do as others do.

THE PREMIUMS.

Promised to new subscribers, are at last received, and will be distributed, with the June number of *Oread*, to all entitled to them. If any one is omitted in the distribution, we hope to be apprised of it at once and the error will be corrected. The View of Seminary Building and Grounds is superior to what we promised our subscribers. In size it is larger, being 8 by 11 inches, and in execution it is quite correct and nicely done on tinted paper. When in a frame with glass over, it makes really a pretty picture. It requires a frame about 10½ by 14½ inches, thus giving a nice margin to the view. We trust every student who is so fortunate as to become the possessor of this View, will prize it as we do, and not delay having it framed. Many are wishing for a picture who do not come in the premium list. To such we would say you can secure one by remitting eighty-five cents to the Financial Manager, who will forward it post paid without delay.

TO SCHOOL DIRECTORS,
And All Interested in Employing Teachers.

Hundreds of Students from this Institution have engaged in teaching, and most with such eminent success as to render the Teacher's Department highly popular, so that members are eagerly sought for by those wishing to employ thorough and efficient teachers. As an evidence of this we quote from a popular journal:

"We do not hesitate to assure directors of schools that teachers who bear away with them certificates of competency given by the Principals of the Mount Carroll Seminary, or a recommendation from the same, will not disappoint your highest expectations. WE SPEAK THAT WHICH WE KNOW."

The Principals however will hold themselves responsible for the success of such only as bear their certificates or recommendations, and desire that directors employing teachers claiming to have been members of this Institution, should require them to show said testimonials. The reason of this wish on the part of the Principals, arises from the fact that several cases have come to their knowledge of parties seeking situations as teachers and claiming to have received their preparation at this Institution, who have never been within its walls. Hence we say also, be sure to require all such claimants to show a Diploma from the Institution, or the Principals' testimonials.

Directors wishing teachers will do well to apply directly to the Principals, who usually have a list of such as they can recommend.

VACATION, AGAIN.

If it should be that a *July* number of *The Oread* does not greet our readers, we trust they will not regard it as ominous of a *failure*, or *The Oread* as defunct. It will be only sleeping or resting, gathering new strength for a new year—in other words “*taking a vacation*.” The fact is we begin to feel a little like the discontented pendulum and have almost decided “to stop.” While Students, Teachers, “*Junior Principal*,” and “all hands” are off home, traveling, or on “wedding excursions,” all intent on rest, recreation, and enjoyment, we alone must stay at our Desk early and late, making up Registers; posting Books; copying bills; keeping up correspondence; answering applications from teachers wanting situations and pupils wanting to enter school, which last are coming in rapidly, and then to cap the climax must “*run The Oread*,” we have to confess to feeling just a little rebellious. Be not surprised then if we get our feelings worked up to *vacation point* and determine as intimated, to give *The Oread* a vacation of a month or two, whether we take one or not.

AN EXPLANATION.

The reason of our space for this month being taken up so much with the circular and notices of Seminary, &c., is that this is the season in which numerous applications are coming in, accompanied with many questions regarding the school, &c., and by embracing as fully as possible the desired information in a number of the *Oread*, we have ready at hand the means of answering these queries, and thus save much time in correspondence. We print an extra quantity of this month's issue in order to meet the demand—to answer to the crowd of applications already being received.

PERSONAL.

Tidings from the “loved ones,”—B. F. Crummer received his degree from the Medical Department of Michigan University, and is at present, practicing with Dr. Caldwell, Elizabeth. He, doubtless, hopes to relieve all the “ills flesh is heir to” and we wish him eminent success in his chosen profession. Sends subscription for *Oread*.

Miss N. C. Brainard is spending the summer with her sister in Grinnell, Iowa. She sends subscription for *Oread*.

Miss Maggie Woodruff, is at her home, Savanna. She sends subscription for *Oread*.

Mrs. Libbie McClosky Wilson, Cananche, will contribute to the Literary exercises of Reunion.—She sends subscription for *Oread*.

Mrs. Emma Buterbaugh Thomas, Mount Morris, sends subscription for *Oread*.

Miss Marry L. Mason, Polo, has been teaching in Polo. She sends subscription for *Oread*.

John M. Murphy, Greenvale, sends for *Oread*. He is engaged in teaching.

Miss Mary C. Hawk, Lanark, is doing what she can for our paper. She sends a list of new subscribers, and a promise of others.—Many thanks from the *Oreads*.

Mrs. Hattie Yager Brookfield, Coleta, sends a club of new subscribers sufficient to pay one half the value of a fine Organ as premium. Who can do better than that?

APPLICATIONS FOR ADMISSION

To the Seminary should be made early to secure choice of rooms, as the prospect is, *all will be occupied and more needed*. The demand for rooms is likely to exceed all previous years. “First come, first served,” hence the safe and wise policy is to *apply early*.

WEDDING CARDS!

Yes, notwithstanding the “*No Cards*,” so often follows marriage notices now-a-days, we are just greeted with the veritable article. Not stinted, meager specimens, looking as though they had scarcely survived Mrs. Grundy's dictum, but nice, generous, *elegant* wedding cards. The old students, many of them, doubtless remember Miss Sarah A. Gregory, of Geneva, N. Y. Well, these cards tell the story of her fate. Neatly engraved upon one is simply “SARAH A. GREGORY.” Upon the other in more elaborate style is, “Mr. and Mrs. ERASTUS C. GAFFIELD. AT HOME after July first, 20 Lafayette Avenue, Brooklyn.”

This explains the haste of the “*Junior Principal*” to go East so immediately after the Commencement. A pleasant vacation to her and a long and happy life to Mr. and Mrs. Gaffield, is the wish of *The Oread*.

The Picture of Seminary and Grounds

Is greatly desired and sought for by the students, both old and new. It is still offered as a premium to new subscribers to the *Oread*. The remittance of \$1.25 will secure the *Oread* for one year and the view, as a premium. Any old subscriber, obtaining the name of a new subscriber, with the \$1.25 for same, shall have the view also for the service. Send on the names, before the supply of pictures is exhausted.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.

Still they come. Another order for a new Organ for one of the students of the last year; Miss Ruggles, of Elkhorn. The readers of the *Oread* are getting to understand pretty well where they can get the best instruments at the lowest figures. Any musical instrument of any make desired, will be furnished at one-fourth off from the manufacturers list price, and time given on the purchase if desired. For particulars, address our Financial Manager.

Strawberries and other Fruits.

As usual at this season of the year, we are deluged with garden fruits in which the Seminary grounds abound. Strawberries so large and delicious! yet in such quantities that all, from the gatherers, and canners, even to the eaters, agree in almost "wishing there were no strawberries."

Cherries too are surfeiting us. Here we have them from the middle of June to September, a constant succession. First, the varieties we are now enjoying, the delicious Heart Cherries, most abundant of which this season is the Gov. Wood and American Amber. Then we have the Belle De Choisy, May Duke, Early Richmond, Montmorency, Reine Hortense, Belle Magnifique, Imperial, &c. &c., giving a succession of delicious cherries for eating from the hand, for table use and for cooking, for more than ten weeks, till we are acquainted with them in almost every conceivable form, from the fresh fruit with and without sugar; cherry puddings, pies, and dumplings, and cherries dry and canned and preserved, till we will be ready to almost "wish there were no cherries."

Then comes the sweet, melting Raspberry of every shade of color, from white, yellow, red, to black. Then the currants, white, black, red, in almost nameless variety and measureless quantities.—Gooseberries without stint or measure. Trees loaded with and promising an abundant harvest of apples, Plums, and Pears. Vineyard and arbors loaded, and promise cargoes of grapes. Who will visit the Seminary grounds in fruit season and say "fruit cannot be cultivated successfully in northern Illinois." Let all croakers come,

and we will prove the assertion a libel upon our part of the State. Let women, whose husbands are too crowded with "more important business to attend to fruit growing," take courage in the example here set, for all the successes attained in Horticulture on these Seminary ground are the result of a woman's persevering labor and care. Let other women do likewise.

OUR PREMIUMS.

As our readers well know there never was a more liberal *Premium List* offered with a paper than is the one we give with the Oread. We require only the cash retail price of the article desired, in subscriptions to the Oread, and the papers will be forwarded to the different subscribers and the premium to the person getting the club. For example a club of 200 subscribers at \$1.25 each, amounts to \$250. for which an Organ or any musical instrument, or other article desired, of such value, at the makers list price, will be forwarded. If but a part of the price can be raised in subscriptions, the balance may be paid without the subscribers from which part we will discount one-fourth from list price. This is no humbug; we are prepared to do what we say, giving in every instance a genuine article, good as can be bought for the money directly of the manufacturers. We are enabled to do this by our superior facilities for purchasing, getting a liberal discount on articles we buy in quantities. Then a large circulation of our paper will so reduce the cost of each copy as to save ourselves from serious loss. We are bound to have the widest circulation of any school paper published and with this we are sure we can make a paper that will interest all and that any Institution may be proud to own. Let the hundreds, yes, thousands of old students of the Mount Carroll Seminary come up to the work as cheerfully, nobly and enthusiastically as the few already made acquainted with

the enterprise, have done, and we shall soon attain to this our ambition. Our Premium List embraces almost every thing the person getting up the club, may wish, as musical instruments of every kind, books, (as Webster's Unabridged Dictionary) of any publisher desired; Silver Ware; Sewing Machines; Watches; any kind of school apparatus; in brief almost anything that can be had for money. Let schools, Lodges, &c., do, as some have already done, get us a club and secure an Organ or a Bell. Patrons and members will be more likely to contribute to the object in the way of a subscription to a paper than pay it without. Then while each one gives his \$1.25 towards securing the desired article he will also receive a paper worth the money paid.

The Normal or Teacher's Course

Affords advantages rarely found in an Institution of this kind. There are many who would gladly make teaching a business and who if properly prepared, would be ornaments to the profession, but who are not able to defray the expense of such preparation. For the aid and encouragement of such, and for the purpose of elevating the standard of common schools, the Principals have for many years practiced a system which opened to a large number, the means of securing a good practical education and a preparation for an extended field of usefulness, which they could not have otherwise enjoyed.

THE SYSTEM IS AS FOLLOWS: To those who have not the means to obtain an education, who possess good minds and unexceptionable character, so recommended by persons of known responsibility, the Principals will open an account, giving credit on bills for boarding, tuition, &c. The payment of said bills to be secured by a promissory note, signed by the student, if of age, otherwise by parent or guardian, and a reliable endorser. Notes to be given quarterly in advance, same as payments come due; on time of one to five years, one year without interest. Books and Stationery are cash articles and must be paid for as received. Those who have not friends to endorse their notes, but in other respects come equally recommended as the above, can enter the *Manual Laborer's ranks* as set forth in another column.

MANUAL LABOR.

A few places are yet vacant in this department, i. e. for students wishing to pay a portion of their expenses by labor. As before noticed, we repeat, preference will be given to those of this class who wish to continue the year through. There are so many seeking these situations, who wish to leave the spring term, to engage in teaching, that it quite disarranges the laboring force of the building during the last term of the year, hence the necessity for some restriction.—Let all wishing to economize by labor, apply and if too late to secure a place at once, their names will be placed on file and an opportunity given soon as possible. Let none needing pecuniary aid to secure an education, allow any false pride to deter them from entering the laboring ranks. Honest labor is respected by all here.—Among those "working their way" for an education, are some of the *very best Students* to be found in this or any other institution. They are as a class, students of *good*, and often *superior* intellectual ability, combined with more than ordinary energy of character; just the characters bound to attain success in what they undertake and will most certainly "make their mark in the world." They uniformly command the highest respect of their associate students, teachers and principals. No student need blush, but may rather feel proud to be enrolled in the band of manual laborers, as they rank here.

OUR NEW MATRON.

This is an acquisition to the corps that conducts the Institution, in which we as students are not a little interested, as we anticipate, indeed we know, it will add vastly to our comfort as a family. Mrs. Gardner, late of Monmouth, has already entered upon the duties of this position. Under her judicious supervision the arrangements of the Boarding department will be so matured and conducted as to make our pleasant home, still more homelike. Mrs. G. is a lady of culture and refinement, and

peculiarly in independent circumstances, but wishing to place her daughter (an only child) in some institution of learning, *without being separated from her*, decided to sacrifice the pleasures of her own quiet home and accompany her here. Preferring an active and useful life to one of ease, Mrs. G. has voluntarily accepted the position above indicated and entered with zeal upon the work, the result of which, if we mistake not will be to make our *Seminary home* as comfortable and pleasant as our own homes, wanting only the presence of, the loved ones we leave behind.

While then we welcome the new official to her position and its numerous responsibilities, we would tender our best wishes for her success and attainment of the object nearest her heart—the true education and accomplishment of her lovely daughter, to secure which, we opine she could not have adopted a wiser plan.

MOUNT CARROLL SEMINARY.

As this number of *The Oread* will be sent to many new applicants for admission to the School, we give space to the following particulars not found in the advertisements of Sem. For Terms, expenses &c., we refer the reader to last page of this paper.

APPLICANTS FOR ADMISSION to the school should give name, age, attainments and probable time of remaining in the Institution.

APPLICATIONS for admission to this school should be made as early as possible, in order to secure choice of rooms. Notwithstanding the largely increased accommodations the last year, nearly every room was occupied; and with the continued rapidly increasing patronage, it is probable there will be, but few, if any, vacancies the coming year, and very soon another addition will be required.

No exception will be made to any student who shall leave the Institution before the close of a term, unless notice be given of such intention on entering, or in case of protracted illness, or other inevitable Providences.

A REQUEST for a student to leave the Institution, to visit home, or any other purpose, should be addressed directly to the Principals from parents or guardians.

VISITING ON THE SABBATH, receiving visits, or traveling to or from home, will not be tolerated, except in cases of extreme necessity.

All pupils are expected to attend Church

and Bible Class on the Sabbath, at such places as the parent or guardian may designate. When no particular preference is expressed, they will accompany the Principals to the Baptist Church.

LET THE CLOTHING OF PUPILS BE PLAIN AND NEAT; extravagance in dress and jewelry is particularly deprecated. Every article of clothing and bedding must be distinctly marked with the owner's name before it can be received in the laundry.

If parents or guardians wish to furnish pocket money for any necessary purchases, it should be deposited with the Principals or in the Seminary Safe.

BORROWING AND LENDING MONEY, or any article of clothing, among the students is *strictly forbidden*. Merchants and shopkeepers in town are *earnestly requested* not to give credit to any student, unless previous permission to that effect is given by the parents or guardians.

DAMAGES.—The occupants of each room shall be answerable for the damages done to it during the time of occupancy.

LIGHTS.—Students are not permitted to use any explosive burning fluids.

BOOKS AND STATIONERY of all kinds needed by students will be furnished in the Seminary at the lowest cash prices, and will be regarded as *strictly cash articles*.

MUSIC.—SUPERIOR FACILITIES are afforded for the acquisition of a *thorough* knowledge of music, whether vocal or instrumental, both as a *science* and an *art*. The best of teachers are employed, and first-class instruments furnished in this department. A systematic course will be marked out for those wishing to make music a specialty, and a Diploma awarded to all who complete the course satisfactorily.

NATURAL HISTORY.—The fine collections Dr. Shimer has made of specimens in the various branches of Natural History, together with his superior attainments as teacher in this department, afford ample facilities and strong incentives to students to prosecute the studies of this department.

ANCIENT LANGUAGES.—This department has, in Rev. C. K. Colver, a teacher competent to make it fully equal to that of any College in the country.

APPARATUS, the original cost of which was over twelve hundred dollars, consisting of a full-size manikin, mounted human skeleton, human bones separate, and numerous charts, etc., to illustrate the subjects of Anatomy and Physiology, has recently been added to the apparatus of the Institution, affording aids to the students rarely found in similar institutions.

PHYSICAL CULTURE, the importance of which can not be over-estimated in any system of education, will receive particular attention. The students will have daily exercise in light Gymnastics, under the instruction of a competent teacher of the Dio Lewis school. A fine grape arbor, twelve feet wide, and over three hundred feet long, with a plank floor through the entire length, gives a superior out-door gymnasium for the students.

The Oread's Welcome to the Old Students.

Delivered before the Remion Society at its last meeting, June 10th,
BY WINONA BRANCH.

For the past month, our little white-winged messengers, with smiling faces, and cheerful voices, have been flitting to the East, to the West, to the North, to the South, warbling in silvery tones, "Rambling sister, roaming brother, you have wandered long enough; come back, and see your *"Mother."*

To those who have given a "*bona fide*" response to the invitation, we say *Welcome*. Yes, more than the mere expression, for, through abuse, the word has lost its force. We mean what "*Welcome*" formerly meant; a true, unvarnished salutation; a heart-felt affinity; not what we fear it sometimes means, a formal polite way of saying "you are not wanted;" or may be a selfish shade of meaning, as, the Spider's, "I'm sure you'r very *Welcome*."

Yes, we mean WELCOME, all the glory and strength of the word. You can see it manifested in the exhilarating and inspiring looks of teachers; in the brimming merriment and joyous laughter of students. Even the air,—laden, of course, with the profundity of science and learning,—seems to give you greeting.

It may not be amiss for us to spend a few moments in retrospect.

A year has passed since you last met your "*Mother*." Now, if we were only versed in classic wisdom, we'd talk like College folks, and call her "*Alma Mater*."

But we conclude, as

"The boys and girls are verdant—their wisdom goes no higher,
Than the Titicaca valley, or the crest of Himalaya;
That they wouldn't understand us, so we really need no other,
Than the good old Anglo Saxon, to talk about our *"Mother."*"

During this year, if, following the style of the *wise* we would say:—Time, that never-resting, ever-onward traveler, in his hasty march has passed us on the way. We but heard the rustle of his garments, and felt the touch of his finger, and he was gone.—Wondering we gaze on his footprints, the only vestige of his flight;—but in our *own language* we say: Many things have transpired.

First, and surely *very important*, some of our number have grown weary of "paddling their *own* canoe," and so have secured some one to help them. We admire the device, and wish them a long and prosperous voyage.

Others, and not a few, have been ploughing and harrowing young minds; hacking away with mallet and chisel, to bring out from the rude block, a classic archetype. May their fruits and the results of their labor, far exceed their fondest hopes and brightest expectations.

Others, not yet satisfied, are fitting themselves for greater usefulness, and looking along the horizon of their aims and hopes, we see Fancy with her dream-dipped brush, painting for them radiant pictures; heights to be scaled; strong holds to be taken; battles to be fought; fields to be lost; victories to be won; and, like Æneas gazing on the Trojan battles, pictured on the walls of the Sidonian temple, they see themselves chief among the leaders.

Others are plodding on in the well worn path, "going-to-be some day,"—and a few have gone *Home*.

Those on the immediate field of action, have willingly consigned themselves to the gentle authority of a modern Diana; and, like the

nymphs of olden time, the "*Oreads*" are enraptured with their band, and with their goddess. Though *our* Diana does not "lead the dance on the banks of the Eurotas, and over the tops Cynthus, nor direct the skill with the bow and arrow;" yet, she leads the light fantastic calisthenics, and the practice with the wand and dumb-bell.

These modern "*Oreads*," have performed a bold, heroic, and almost unheard of deed. They have dared, unaided by the "*gods*," to send out, each month, white-winged messengers, to relate to mankind, the writings and orations of the learned and eloquent; the hiding places of the wandering ones; the plots and conspiracies of presentations; murders of logical giants; news of intellectual battles; news of mental victories; names of leading conquerors, in the triumphs over scientific hosts.

They go forth, to present gems of thought; diamonds polished by mental labor; pearls sought and found in the depths of literature; precious stones and sparkling atoms of wit, gathered, only by earnest toil, from secret nooks and hidden crevices.

The Oreads send forth these messengers, that untrammelled by the shackles of obligation to "*amiability*" and "*generosity*," they may express their candid opinions, and "*strong-minded*" sentiments.

We do not intend to enter upon any encomium respecting their success, or, panegyricize the result of their labor, for the attending and well-known facts, speak for themselves.

These Oreads have *not* risen to usurp the place and power of the Reunionists; by no means. They are only building-stones, yet they have an important place in lending beauty and strength,—*espec-*

ially the former—to the great edifice reared to the honor and glory of Mt. Carroll Seminary.

This year we enter a new decade in the history of the Reunion Society. Those who have been connected with it from its earliest history know its progress; hearts and hands have been given to its advancement.

Soon our "Oreads," each in turn, like a portion of our band this afternoon, will stand before you, draped in snowy uniform, to receive the reward of their labor, the bit of parchment that tells *so much*; and as we each go out from clinging attachments, into the world, may our hearts turn homeward, drawn hither by the bonds of affection; and ever may loving hearts be here to bid us *Welcome*.

From the "Carroll County Mirror."
The Seminary Exercises.

Most of last week, at the Mount Carroll Seminary, was devoted to examinations of classes, entertainments in the evening, Students' Reunion, Graduating Exercises and Closing Festival.

We do not design, in this article, to make extended remarks about the examinations of the classes.—That will be presented fully next week in the report of the examining committee. We can say however that the classes acquitted themselves in a manner to reflect credit upon themselves and their teachers. Indeed, we think students in the higher classes especially, such as logic, astronomy, &c., displayed more than ordinary ability and familiarity with the studies gone over.

The entertainments on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings were witnessed by fair sized audiences, who seemed to appreciate the performances in a high degree. The first evening was devoted to a "Gymnastic Review," closing with a very fine oriental drama. Both these exercises were viewed by the audience with feelings of delight.—Nothing could be finer than the

Gymnastic exercises of that large class, performed in appropriate costume, and in good time, to the light music of the piano. Miss HULL deserves much credit for her successful training of this class.—It is a new feature in our Western schools; and nothing can be more useful. The development of muscle as well as brain is a needed want in our educational systems; and we are glad to know that the Seminary has taken the matter up in earnest. The oriental drama was well performed. The fine costumes added a charm to the shifting scenes, and altogether the exercises of this evening were both agreeable and instructive. The second evening was devoted to dramas, tableaux, recitations, music, &c. Two or three of the recitations were especially good; indeed, they were more than good;—they were very fine. All the other varied exercises of the evening were listened to with feelings of manifest pleasure by the audience. The only criticism we feel like offering is, that the exercises, or rather the time between the exercises, was too long. The whole entertainment lasted about three hours, a thing which no Institution should permit.

Thursday forenoon was taken up with the Students' Reunion. The following is the programme, prepared by the committee of arrangements for that occasion:

Prayer—Rev. C. K. Colver,
Music—Overture—Misses Branch, Smith and Charles.
Welcome—Miss Winona Branch, Springfield.
Music—"Dora Lamberton, Bellevue.
Address—Saml. McCall, Mount Carroll.
Music—Miss McDaniels, Boston.
Essay—Mrs. Libbie McCloskey Wilson, Camanche, Iowa.
Music—Misses Raymond and Harvey, Chicago and Sterling.
Address—C. L. Hostetter, Mount Carroll.
Music—Miss Mary E. Ren,
Essay—Mrs. Maggie Fuller Burnside, Belvidere.
Music—Miss Alice J. Briggs, Delavan, Wis.
Poem—Mrs. Libbie Lunt Hall, St. Louis.
Music—Miss Nellie Charles, Anna, Ill.
Address—S. F. Aspinwall, Freeport.
Music—Miss Mamie Hostetter, Mt. Carroll.
Essay—Miss Mary E. Matthews, Chicago.
Music—Mrs. Hattie Hooker Etter, Mt. Carroll.
Address—By the President, H. H. C. Miller, Channahon, Ill.
Music—Miss Mary E. Matthews, Chicago.

Other engagements prevented our attendance at these exercises; but we learn they were both varied and interesting. The address of J. MORRIS REA, Vice-President, (the President having failed to be present,) we hear spoken of in the highest terms.

In the afternoon came commencement exercises. The following was the programme on that interesting occasion:

Prayer.
Music—Miss Cornelius.
Essay—"Our Boat is Launched, but where's the Shore?"—Miss Mary L. Hathaway, Savanna.
Essay—"Conquerors and Conquests."—Miss Retta Tomlinson, Mount Carroll.
Music—Miss Raymond.
Essay—"My Ain Countrie."—Miss Alice J. Briggs, Delavan, Wis.
Essay—"Shadows."—Miss Dora Lamberton, Bellevue, Iowa.
Music—Miss Belle Vail.
Essay—"There are no Dead."—Miss Nettie Charles, Anna, Ill.
Valedictory—Miss M. L. Hathaway.
Music—Miss Harvey.
Addresses.
Music—Misses Vail and Smith.
Presentation of Diplomas.

The essays of the graduating class were far above the average in ability. In this the audience all agreed. The Seminary may well be proud of this graduating class; few Institutions send forth its equal. "Our boat is launched, but where's the shore," was happy in conception, and ably and beautifully treated. "Conquerors and Conquests" was an exceedingly sensible and truthful essay. "My Ain Countrie" abounded with patriotic sentiments, well and pleasantly expressed. "Shadows" was poetical in sentiment, and beautiful in expression. "There are no Dead" abounded in fine sentiments, finely expressed. The Valedictory came last, and was delivered by the reader of the first essay. It was listened to with interest, and referred in tender, touching terms to the formation and severance of school girl associations.

The instrumental and vocal music, interspersed through the exercises, was very appropriate and beautiful, and added much to the interest of the occasion. Misses CORNELIUS, RAYMOND, VAIL, SMITH and HARVEY, acquitted themselves well in every piece they performed or song they sung.

JAMES SHAW, Esq., Rev. J. F. PROBST and Dr. J. L. HOSTETTER, members of the examining committee present, made short addresses; after which Miss GREGORY presented the diplomas to the members of the graduating class, accompanying each presentation with appropriate remarks. We never saw diplomas presented so well before.

The evening was given up to a festive reunion of the old and pres-

ent students, and a few invited friends. Thus passed off one of the pleasantest commencement weeks our citizens were ever called upon to attend.

REPORT OF THE EXAMINING COMMITTEE.

The undersigned, the Committee of Examination for the Mount Carroll Seminary, would beg leave to submit the following report. The Examinations for the present school year took place at two different times, the first being at the close of the Spring term in April last, and the other, on the 7th, 8th, and 9th days of the present month. The programme of those Examinations is not now before the committee; nor do they deem it necessary to speak in detail of the different classes examined. That would protract this report to too great a length. It would be almost sufficient to say, that the examinations just concluded, in fairness, thoroughness, and the success uniformly attending them, compared favorably with the high character of the examinations noticed in past years at this Institution.

As usual at this Institution the topical method of examination was pursued. A topic or subject was announced, and the student required, in her own way and language, to give the author's treatment of the same. This drew out the student's full knowledge of the subject or topic under consideration, and made the exercise more than a simple test of memory. Leading questions, and everything suggesting the answers sought, were carefully avoided.—Indeed, in a few instances this plan was so rigidly pursued on the part of teachers as to become slightly unfair to students, by leaving them in doubt as to what they were required to tell. Failures, and partial failures on the part of students were extremely rare, and these were perhaps traceable to timidity and unpropitious circumstances, rather than to a want of training or a lack of familiarity with the subject under

consideration. The examinations, as a whole, were of a high character. Any Institution in the land might feel proud of them.—They displayed careful and patient training on the part of teachers; thorough system on the part of Principals; and successful study on the part of pupils. This was especially true of the exercises in Intellectual Arithmetic, which study has attained a well-deserved preeminence in the Mount Carroll Seminary. The classes in English Grammar also displayed a familiarity with the principles of the language not often attained in our best schools; and the examinations in this study were highly satisfactory to the committee. We are glad to note that these studies, containing as they do the fundamental principles or rudiments of all true education, are carefully looked after in the Mount Carroll Seminary. The principals evidently believe in laying the proper foundation of an education before building the superstructure.

But while we appreciate these efforts in the primary studies, we are not to forget or lightly pass over the studies completed by the more advanced classes, and especially those of the graduating year. The higher mathematics; the languages; and kindred studies, were thoroughly gone over by the classes, so far as they went; and the examinations therein were of a high grade. Geology, Astronomy, Logic, Rhetoric, and other studies pursued by the graduating class, were thoroughly mastered; and the examinations of that class in these studies, convinced the committee that its members are not turned out into the world with only a superficial acquaintance with the course of study gone over; but are really and truly educated, so far as an education can be acquired in a first-class Seminary of learning. In mental discipline, power of thought, acquaintance with the contents of the text books, and facility and beauty of expression as displayed in the closing essays, the graduating class of the present year acquitted them-

selves in a highly creditable manner. Such a class would be an honor to almost any Institution in the land.

The specimens of drawing and painting, hung over the walls of the school room, also attracted the attention of the committee. This department is under charge of Miss BURR, and we feel free to say that few teachers can display finer evidences of success than she displayed in the work of her pupils, adorning the walls of the school and exhibition rooms at the Seminary.

The music, so pleasantly interspersed throughout the other exercises, indicated that this useful accomplishment is by no means neglected. This department is under charge of M. O. MASON, assisted by a competent corps of teachers. They have done their work well. The musical examination is said by good judges to have been exhaustive, thorough, and successful. The instrumental and vocal pieces rendered on the stage were very fine indeed.

Considerable attention is paid to physical culture in the Mount Carroll Seminary, and nothing pleased the committee more than the zeal and interest with which the young ladies took hold of it. The Gymnastic Review, consisting of postures, exercises with dumb bells, wands, rings, &c., rendered in appropriate costumes to the light music of the piano, is a decided feature in the educational system of the Seminary. The young ladies already manifest its benefits, in robust health and increased ability to study in the school room. Not the least of Miss HULL's success as a teacher is displayed in these health-giving exercises.

We do not feel like closing this report without alluding to the able corps of teachers employed by the Principals of this school. In that consists their success. They have no poor teachers. Each one is adapted to his or her work. The result is most gratifying. The Rev. C. K. COLVER, who has in charge some of the most advanced

classes, is evidently a very thorough and able instructor; and the same may be said of Dr. SHIMER, Misses HULL and MASON, and in fact all the others. Such being the case, it is no wonder the Mount Carroll Seminary has attained its present high position as one of the best schools for young ladies in our land.

C. B. SMITH,
JAMES SHAW,
N. HALDERMAN,
J. F. PROBST,
J. L. HOSTETTER,
J. G. BLAKE,
A. H. LICHTY,
JOSEPH ODGERS,
D. M. GREELEY.

June 18, 1869.

THE SEMINARY GROUNDS.

The following account of the Seminary grounds was furnished the *Prairie Farmer* by the President of the Northern Illinois Horticultural Society. Afterwards copied by the "Mirror" of this city, and the *Christian Times* of Chicago and several Iowa papers. Judging the improvements and present condition of these grounds will interest the old students, some of whom have not had the pleasure of seeing them for many years, we give place to the articles:

From the *Prairie Farmer*, Jan. 18.
SEMINARY GROUNDS.

Trees, Shrubs, &c., Planted upon grounds immediately connected with the Mount Carroll Seminary, being about seventy-five acres.

We have the following correct account of the tree, shrub and flower planting that has taken place on the grounds of the Mount Carroll Seminary, at Mount Carroll, Ill. We doubt if any institution in the United States certainly in the West, can make a similar showing. How much it must add to the pleasure of student life there and how much to health and contentment. Yet, how easily it is all accomplished if proprietors have the taste and inclination. This exhibit should have its effect upon proprietors and projectors of similar institutions throughout the land.

The entire grounds are surrounded by osage orange hedge, together with three division lines of osage hedge using some thirty thousand plants. There is a belt of evergreens around the entire grounds, on two sides, planted six feet apart and on the other two sides planted from ten to eighteen feet apart, a belt of deciduous trees, about twelve feet from the belt of evergreens and alternating with the vacancies between the evergreens, deciduous trees from fifteen to twenty feet apart; also, a belt of trees outside the ground and sidewalk, on nearly

three sides. Of evergreens planted for screens and scattered over the grounds for ornament, there are about two thousand of some fifteen different varieties. Of deciduous shade and ornamental trees, about six hundred, comprising over sixty different varieties. Of fruit trees, about one thousand apple trees; four hundred pear trees; three hundred cherry trees; twenty-five crab-apple trees and fifteen hundred grape vines.

Of small fruits: strawberries, gooseberries, blackberries, and raspberries, the numbers are past our estimate. We can only say there are great quantities and numerous varieties. Of garden roots and vegetables, everything that can be grown in this climate successfully may be found on their grounds in season in abundance for a family of one hundred, excepting the article of potatoes, of which are used, buying most of them, annually some six hundred bushels. Only a part of the fruit trees are yet in bearing. All the fruits grown upon the grounds are consumed at the seminary—nothing sold! The object is simply to supply to the institution, fruits and vegetables of every kind and in as great abundance as any student could enjoy at her own home. Two grape arbors are built, one of which is some three hundred feet long and twelve wide, completely floored, and will soon be well covered with vines, making a splendid out-door gymnasium.

There is also a flower garden, in which have been planted, from time to time hundreds of varieties of roses and ornamental shrubs and flowering plants. For example, the past season fifty varieties of dahlias were planted; same number of varieties of verbena, &c., &c.

The Institution devotes a few acres in addition to the Seminary grounds proper, to the cultivation of different fruit and ornamental trees, evergreens, &c., for planting out on the Seminary grounds and for stocking of a Seminary fruit farm of forty acres being prepared for planting.

Many other improvements are projected. A green-house is in prospect. A PATRON.

From the *Prairie Farmer*, Feb. 8.

MT. CARROLL SEMINARY GROUNDS.

WHAT TWO LADIES HAVE DONE.

EDS *PRAIRIE FARMER*:—Permit me to correct a slight error in the communication of "Patron" in the *Prairie Farmer* of January 18th. He says the seminary grounds at Mount Carroll embrace seventy-five acres. Unfortunately, there are but twenty-five.

I am truly grateful to "Patron" for giving to the public even a brief sketch of the Horticultural improvements on these grounds not alone for the compliment to this institution, which, if public opinion be correct, it deservedly merits, but for the impetus I trust it may give to like improvements on other school grounds. There are a few facts,

however, which may not have been known to "Patron," that for the encouragement of ladies, I would like to state.

These Seminary grounds, which are truly an ornament to the city, have been made what they are by two ladies, who are the founders, principals and proprietors of the institution. When they entered upon the work, these premises were the open prairie, not a tree or a shrub, if we except the "hazel brush," belonging to the grounds, and not even a fence enclosing it. This barren waste these ladies have converted into the beautiful grounds so briefly described by "Patron." The entire work of building up an institution of learning, the high reputation of which is too widely known to need comment from me, has been upon their hands. All the improvements, repeated enlargements of the building to meet the constantly increasing wants of the school, enlarging the grounds, the horticultural improvements of the grounds, all have been projected, and plans drafted by and executed under the personal supervision of these ladies. With the exception of an unsuccessful experiment of six months with a Board of Trustees in the early history of the school, no man's aid has been had to finance the enterprise, or project improvements. Let the success attending the labors of these two ladies be an example to every lady reader of the *Prairie Farmer*. OBSERVER.

Wanted—Situations for Teachers.

School Directors, Trustees or Principals of Institutions, wishing competent Teachers, will do well to apply to Principals of Mount Carroll Seminary, as they have several names on their list of students wishing situations, not yet supplied. One Graduate in the complete Course of Study of this Institution and in Music would like a situation as teacher of Music, either in an Institution, or a private class in some flourishing village.

Lippincott's Magazine for May opens with a full page illustration. Hans Breitmann in Politics. Beyond the Breakers increases in interest.

Salmon Fishing in Maine cannot fail to send an army of anglers to the beautiful lakes of Maine.

Rougegorge; is one of Harriet Spofford's most tragic tales, in which the bride of a day is *spiritually* murdered by her husband, who is subsequently destroyed by the revengeful wife through the instrumentality of the poisonous hyacinth perfume—"smothered in sweets."

Besides these we have Life in Coal Mines, by Walton; A Few Curious Derivatives; Dick Lyle's Fee; Spectrum Analysis; Recollections of Washington Irving; two fine poems, The Argosy and May Apples; and other highly interesting articles.

Lippincott's is, certainly, one of our best Magazines. J. B. Lippincott & Co., Publishers, 715 & 717 Market St., Philadelphia. Terms \$4.00 per year.

Extracts from Report of last Year's Examining Committee.

The Examinations commenced on the 7th and 8th days of April last, with the classes in Bookkeeping, Astronomy and Practical Arithmetic, by Dr. Shimer; Algebra and Grammar, by Miss Hull; and Intellectual Arithmetic, by Miss White; were resumed three weeks afterwards with the classes in Natural Philosophy, by Miss Hull; and in Geology, by Dr. Shimer; and concluded on the 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th days of June, with the classes in English Grammar, Intellectual Philosophy, Analysis and Rhetoric, by Miss Hull; Criticism, Latin and Logic, by Rev. Mr. Colver; French, and the performances of the little ones in Reading, Spelling and Geography, with Map Drawing, by Miss Peart; Geometry and Chemistry, by Dr. Shimer; Intellectual and Practical Arithmetic, by Miss White; Instrumental Music, with the fundamental principles of the science, by Miss Mason, assisted by Miss Jackson; and Reading, by Miss Gregory.

The Exercises, taken as a whole, were fully up to the highest standard ever attained at this Institution, and in some particulars excelled all the former examinations of which the Committee have any knowledge.

A fact came to knowledge of the Committee, during the progress of the Examinations, which we deem it proper to notice, which is, that within the past year the Principals have purchased, for the use of the Institution, a Manikin, a human skeleton complete, and set of human bones disunited, which, added to their anatomical plates and other apparatus, furnishes an outfit for illustrating the science of Anatomy and Physiology possessed by few seminaries of learning, and affords a fine opportunity for acquiring a knowledge of this most important branch of education.

Taken altogether, the Exercises demonstrated that the Mount Carroll Seminary still stands where it has stood for fifteen years, the peer of any similar institution in the West. The able corps of teachers, and marvelous degree of thoroughness with which everything attempted is carried through, aside from its many other attractions, render it a most desirable place for a young lady to qualify herself for the duties of life.

C. B. SMITH, Esq., REV. JOS. ODGERS,
GEO. HICKS, Esq., A. H. LIGHT,
REV. E. MARSH, J. L. HOSTETTER, M. D.
JAS. SHAW, Esq., HON. N. HALDERMAN.

Extracts from Communications of Rev. J. A. Smith, D. D., of Chicago, regarding the last year's Examination, etc.

MOUNT CARROLL FEMALE SEMINARY.—This Institution, located at Mt. Carroll, one of the most pleasant towns in Illinois, closed last week what its faculty denominate "the happiest and most prosperous year in its history." The Principals, as most of our readers well know, are Mrs. F. A. W. Shimer and Miss C. M. Gregory, by whom also the school was founded some fifteen years ago, and through whose enterprise, devotion to their work, and skill, it has been built up. An excellent corps of teachers has been associated with them the past year, among whom we may mention Miss Hull, in the English department; Miss Mason and Miss Jackson, in the Musical, as especially efficient. Dr. Shimer teaches the higher mathematics, while Rev. C. K. Colver, pastor of the Baptist church in Mount Carroll, has rendered most valuable service, especially in Latin and Logic.

We had the very great pleasure of being present at nearly all the examinations. Without assuming to anticipate the work of the Examining Committee, or to speak either critically or with any attempt at discrimination, we may say that these examinations showed results of thorough work. Examinations are a very unreliable test of individual scholarship, but they indicate well the method of the teacher, and enable one to form a tolerably accurate judgment of the general result. We gained from those to which we listened the impression that the purpose at Mount Carroll is to make the students *understand* the subjects studied, and to exercise their own powers of expression in the recitation, as also to develop the faculty of original thinking.

The exercises all through, from first to last, were of a superior kind, and formed a fitting conclusion to a prosperous year.

Both from the results of observation on this occasion, and from fruits seen in a member of our own family committed to the care of these ladies, we feel warranted in pronouncing this school, for all the highest purposes of education, one of the best in our knowledge.

We regard it as unsurpassed in the West, whether as respects the judiciousness of the discipline, or the substantial value of the instruction

Mrs. Shimer and Miss Gregory, by dividing between them the responsibility, and each giving special attention to her own department, and by the admirable fitness which each possesses for the special sphere assigned, secure in the management of the school that perfect system without which no good work in this world is ever done. We hope to hear that even the larger accommodations now provided are fully brought into use, and that the year about to open proves the most prosperous yet in the history of this prosperous school. The charter, obtained at the late session of the Illinois Legislature, places the Seminary under the entire control of its Principals, both of whom, we ought to add, are Baptist ladies.

Extracts from conclusion of Reports, etc., of Commencement and Examination Exercises.

It has been the privilege of some of your committee to be present at a number of College Commencements, and we hesitate not to say that we never listened to a graduating class whose compositions were uniformly of a higher order than those of the young ladies. They were all so good, and evidently prepared with so much care and thought, and exhibited so many marks of thorough mental culture, that to particularize is out of the question. It was indeed a feast of reason, for which we are grateful, and of which our young lady friends may be justly proud. May their future success in life justify the pleasing auguries which their admirable compositions excited in the minds of many who hold them in kind remembrance, and follow them into the duties of active life with an earnest wish for their highest success.

Upon the whole, the commencement was a great success, and among the large audience who graced the occasion with their presence, we heard but one opinion, and that was the great pleasure which the occasion afforded. The Principals may cherish it as an event of peculiar interest, and as a partial reward for their unwearied efforts to secure to their pupils the most thorough and generous culture. Well might they have said to that large and intelligent audience: these are our handiwork; and no higher evidence would have been needed to sustain their well-earned reputation of skillful and successful educators.

HON. JOHN WILSON. JAMES SHAW, Esq.
REV. T. P. CAMPBELL. D. F. CROUSE, M. D.
C. B. SMITH, Esq. ABRAHAM HOSTETTER.

Dr. W. D. McAFFEE. (Mrs.) B. R. Frohock.
NELSON FLETCHER, Esq. " J. L. Hostetter.
Rev. J. V. Allison. " J. G. Blake.

Examining Committee.

We are permitted to refer to the following:

Rev. J. A. SMITH, D.D., Chicago.
JESSE CLEMENT, Esq.
Rev. THOMAS POWELL, Ottawa, Ill.
" CARLOS SWIFT, Normal, Ill.
" J. V. ALLISON, Polo, Ill.
" A. G. EBERHART, Plainfield, Ill.
" CHAS. K. COLVER, Mt. Carroll Ill.
" E. M. MILES, LeClaire, Iowa.
" T. P. CAMPBELL, South Bend, Ind.
H. G. GRATTAN, Esq., Ludlow, Iowa.

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Vol. xiv. THE HOMESTEAD 1869.

AND

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AN OFFICIAL STATE PAPER, published at the CAPITAL OF IOWA, weekly, contains full list of names, with the P. O. address of officers of State and County Agricultural and Horticultural Societies in Iowa.

Is the only leading agricultural paper north of St. Louis, and west of the Mississippi river, and to persons who think of

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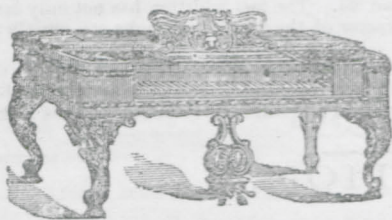
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The first Term opened with eleven pupils, and closed with forty. Since that time the numbers in attendance and the prosperity of the Institution have been constantly increasing, till it has obtained a position truly enviable, and second to no similar one in the West. Two additions have been made to the original building, one in 1857, and one in 1866 and '67. The last addition has not only largely increased the accommodations, but with the changes in the original building, the character of the accommodations are greatly improved, the rooms for students being much larger and more convenient.

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The Fall Term of the Sixteenth School Year opens	September 16th, 1869,	and closes	December 22d.
" Winter Term	" " " " " January 3d, 1870,	" closes	April 6th.
" Spring Term	" " " " " opens April 7th, 1870,	" "	June 10th.

Annual Examination, Commencement Exercises, Students' Re-union and Vacation as follows:

The Seventeenth Annual Examination will begin June 6th, 1870, and end June 9th.

The Annual Exercises of the "STUDENTS' RE-UNION," June 10th, A. M.

The Annual Commencement Exercises, June 10th, P. M.

Summer Vacation, from June 11th to September 17th.

Winter Vacation, from December 23d to January 3d.

EXPENSES.

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Use of instrument, one hour per day, " "	8 00
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Vocal Music in Classes, " "	10 00
Gymnastics, with use of Apparatus, " "	5 00

Latin, per school year,	\$12 00
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Tuition in Primary Branches, per school year	\$18 00
Tuition in Academic Dep't, 1st year's studies, per school year,	22 00
" " " " 2d " " " " "	26 00
" " " " 3d " " " " "	28 00
" Collegiate " " " " "	30 00
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Vocal Music in Classes, " " " " "	10 00

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